



# NEWS RELEASE

**Matthew D. Orwig**  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BEAUMONT MAN GUILTY OF FEDERAL GUN VIOLATIONS**

(Beaumont, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 30-year-old Beaumont man has pleaded guilty to federal firearms violations in the Eastern District of Texas.

**RUFUS DELANTE MCCLELLAND, JR.**, pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm today before United States Magistrate Judge Earl S. Hines.

According to information presented in court, on June 4, 2006, law enforcement officers attempted to stop McClelland in Beaumont for a traffic violation. Instead of pulling over, McClelland fled from officers through a residential area before abandoning his vehicle and fleeing on foot. During this time, McClelland fired three shots in the direction of the police officers. A brief manhunt ensued and McClelland was taken into custody. The gun and shell casing were found nearby. An investigation revealed that McClelland had been previously convicted of drug trafficking charges in Beaumont in 2001, thereby prohibiting him from owning or possessing a firearm or ammunition.

McClelland faces up to ten years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 at sentencing. A sentencing date has not been set.

This case was investigated by the Beaumont Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Jefferson County Crime Lab. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall L. Fluke.

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